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IN THE CLAIMS:

The status and content of each claim follows. No amendments are made by the present paper.

1. (withdrawn) A wireless access point for use in a local area network for transmitting data among networked devices, the wireless access point being incorporated into a first networked device and comprising:

a wireless transceiver for wireless receiving and transmitting a data signal among said networked devices; and

a controller for controlling said transceiver to receive and transmit said data signal among networked devices within range of said transceiver so as to wirelessly relay said data signal among said networked devices in accordance with a designated recipient device of said data signal specified by said data signal;

wherein said controller both (1) transmits data originating on said first networked device in which said wireless access point is incorporated and (2) relays data in accordance with a designated recipient among any of the other said networked devices within range of said wireless access point.

2-3. (cancelled)

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4. (withdrawn) The wireless access point of claim 23, wherein said power connector is a pair of prongs extending directly from said housing for connection to a wall outlet as said power supply.

5. (withdrawn) The wireless access point of claim 23, wherein said power connector is a threaded connector for connection to a light bulb socket as said power supply.

6. (withdrawn) The wireless access point of claim 23, further comprising an alternate power source.

7. (withdrawn) The wireless access point of claim 6, wherein said alternate power source comprises a solar power unit.

8. (withdrawn) The wireless access point of claim 1, further comprising a power-line modem connected to a power line, wherein said controller further controls said power-line modem to receive, transmit and relay said data signal among networked devices connected to said power line through respective power-line modems.

9. (withdrawn) The wireless access point of claim 8, further comprising a connection to said power-line for drawing power to power said access point.

10-11. (cancelled)

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12. (withdrawn) A method of extending a local area network with one or more wireless access points each comprising a wireless transceiver for wirelessly receiving and transmitting a data signal among networked devices, the method comprising: connecting a said wireless access point to a power source;

controlling said transceiver to receive and transmit said data signal among networked devices within range of said transceiver so as to wirelessly relay said data signal among said networked devices in accordance with a designated recipient device of said data signal; and

providing an electrical outlet on said wireless access point such that another device can be connected to said power source through said wireless access point.

13. (withdrawn) The method of claim 12, wherein said access point has no wired connection to said local area network, but communicates with other networked devices of said network solely through said wireless transceiver.

14. (cancelled)

15. (withdrawn) The method of claim 12, further comprising incorporating said wireless access point in an outlet strip, said electrical outlet being one of a plurality of electrical plug outlets of said outlet strip.

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16. (withdrawn) The method of claim 12, wherein said connects to a power source further comprising providing a threaded connector for connection to a light bulb socket, said electrical outlet being a second light bulb socket and said other device being a light bulb.

17. (withdrawn) The method of claim 12, further comprising providing an alternate power source for said access point.

18. (withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein said alternate power source is rechargeable and said method further comprises recharging said alternate power source.

19. (withdrawn) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
connecting said access point to a power line through a power-line modem; and
controlling said power-line modem to receive, transmit and relay said data signal among networked devices connected to said power line through respective power-line modems.

20. (withdrawn) The method of claim 19, further comprising connecting said access point to said power-line for drawing power to power said access point.

21-22. (cancelled)

23. (withdrawn) A wireless access point for use in a local area network for transmitting data among networked devices, the wireless access point comprising:

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transceiver means for wireless receiving and transmitting a data signal among said networked devices; and

controller means for controlling said transceiver means to receive and transmit said data signal among networked devices within range of said transceiver means so as to wirelessly relay said data signal among said networked devices in accordance with a designated recipient device of said data signal;

said wireless access point further comprising a weatherproof housing and electrical power connector for connection with a power supply for powering said wireless access point such that said wireless access point is configured to be deployed outside.

24. (previously presented) A system including a network that supports wireless portable devices, the system comprising:

a plurality of wireless access points in said network which receive wireless transmissions from said portable devices;

a processor for determining a location of a portable device based on transmissions received by any of said plurality of access points from said portable device, wherein said processor may be in said wireless portable device or may be in an access point or other networked device;

wherein a functionality of said portable device is altered in response to said determined location.

25. (cancelled)

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26. (original) The system of claim 24, wherein said portable device comprises a wireless phone unit that controls a ringer volume according to said determined location.

27. (original) The system of claim 24, wherein said portable device comprises a wireless phone unit that controls a voice mail feature according to said determined location.

28. (previously presented) The system of claim 24, wherein said portable device provides different features or information according to said determined location.

29. (previously presented) A method of controlling a wireless portable device for use with a network that supports wireless portable devices, said network further comprising a plurality of wireless access points which receive wireless transmissions from said portable device, and a device, which is incorporated into said portable device or into said network, for determining a location of said portable device based on transmissions received by any of said plurality of access points from said portable device, the method comprising altering a functionality of said portable device in response to said determined location.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said portable device comprises a wireless phone unit, and said method further comprises automatically adjusts a ringer volume of said wireless phone unit based on conditions of said determined location.

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31. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said method comprises increasing said ringer volume if said determined location has conditions comprising ambient noise.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 30, wherein said method comprises decreasing said ringer volume if said determined location is a conference room.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said portable device comprises a wireless phone unit with voice mail, and said method further comprises automatically activating and deactivating a ringer of said wireless phone unit in response to said determined location, wherein at least one location within an area of said network is associated with having said ringer deactivated.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, said method further comprises providing different features or information in response to said determined location.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein said portable device is a personal digital assistant, and said method further comprises adjusting an amount of time prior to a scheduled event that an alert of said event is given based on said determined location and a distance between said determined location and a location associated with said scheduled event.

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36. (withdrawn) The wireless access point of claim 5, wherein said housing further comprises a second light bulb socket for providing power to a light bulb in said second light bulb socket by drawing power from said light bulb socket to which said wireless access point is connected through said threaded connector.

37. (withdrawn) The wireless access point of claim 4, wherein said prongs are configured to be selectively retracted into, and extended from, said housing for, respectively, storage and use.

38. (previously presented) The system of claim 24, wherein said portable device displays a map comprising an indication of a location of said portable device and a location of an upcoming appointment.

39. (previously presented) The system of claim 38, wherein said portable device further displays directions to said location of said upcoming appointment.

40. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, further comprising displaying a map with said portable device that includes an indication of a location of said portable device and a location of an upcoming appointment.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 40, further comprising displaying directions to said location of said upcoming appointment.